

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

7  
**SECRET**

TO : DIRECTOR

FROM : SAIGON

25X1  
ACCN: [REDACTED]

INFO : DCI, D/DCI, OGC 2, DDP, ADDP,

25X1

S E C R E T 251000Z

PRIORITY DIR [REDACTED]

25X1

40 SEP 63 IN 26692

FOLLOWING IS VERBATIM EDITORIAL TITLED "CUT THE BUDGET"  
FROM TIMES OF VIETNAM OF 25 SEPT 63:

U S. SENATOR FRANK CHURCH AND 21 OF HIS COLLEAGUES ARE RECOMMENDING THAT THE U S GOVERNMENT CUT AID TO VIETNAM. THERE ARE THOSE WHO SHUDDER AT THE THOUGHT. WE DON'T. WE THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA, AND WE HAVE SOME IDEAS ON HOW IT COULD BE DONE IN A WAY NOT TO ENDANGER THE WAR EFFORT, BUT, ON THE CONTRARY, TO ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF BOTH AMERICAN AND VIETNAMESE EFFORTS.

IT MUST BE DONE IN SUCH A WAY THAT ONE IS SURE TO BE CUTTING OFF THE HAND THAT OFFENDS ONE, RATHER THAN CUTTING OFF ONE'S NOSE TO SPITE ONE'S FACE.

THE FIRST SLASH COULD BE MADE ON THE PAYROLL, THE CIA PRO-COUP PAYROLL TO BE EXACT. THERE ARE REPORTED, BY FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, TO BE 60 (SPELLED S-I-X-T-Y) GROUPS, OR CELLS, OF CIA AGENTS IN VIETNAM. NOW, EACH GROUP MUST HAVE AT LEAST THREE PERSONS OR IT WOULDN'T BE A GROUP - ESTIMATES

**SECRET**GROUP 1  
from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

~~SECRET~~IN 26672 PAGE

RUN AS HIGH AS 20 PER GROUP. BUT LET'S TAKE THE MINIMUM, TO BE SURE WE TALKING ONLY ABOUT PRO-COUP AGENTS. THREE PEOPLE TIMES ABOUT 60, TIMES ABOUT 8,000 U S DOLLARS PER YEAR? THAT WOULD CUT 1,440,000 U S DOLLARS FROM THE LOAD. BUT THAT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING.

MINIMUM TRANSPORTATION FOR TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD ONCE EVERY TWO YEARS FOR 180 PEOPLE IS ABOUT 360,000 U.S. DOLLARS - TOURIST CLASS, THAT IS. THEN THERE ARE THE LITTLE HOPS TO HONGKONG, OKINAWA, BANGKOK, AND THEN THERE'S THE MATTER OF MOVING AROUND SAIGON - CARS, CHAUFFEURS. FUEL.

HOUSING IS A TOUCH MATTER. IT HAS NOT GONE UNNOTICED THAT SOME CIA PEOPLE HAVE NICER HOUSES THAN THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE. THE HOUSEHOLD NECESSITIES SUCH AS ELECTRICITY, BUTAGAZ, REPAIRS, TELEPHONES COUNT UP FOR A COLONY OF 180 PEOPLE.

THE BIG ITEMS COME IN THE ((EXPENSE ACCOUNTS)), THE COST OF BUYING ((CLASSIFIED)) MISINFORMATION, ((REPRESENTATION,)) AND THE FAMOUS ((C/PSAWWQELJ)) FUNDS.

AND THEN THERE ARE SUCH ODDS AND ENDS AS 24 MILLION FOR THE COUP D'ETAT THAT HASN'T YET COME OFF - AND IF IT DOES COME OFF WILL TAKE ONLY SAIGON, ANYWAY. AND THIS WOULD INCUR FURTHER EXPENSES BECAUSE THE CIA-SPONSORED GOVERNMENT IN SAIGON WOULD HAVE ANOTHER WAR TO FIGHT AGAINST THE NATIONALIST CONTROLLED PROVINCES.

SUCH SUNDRIES AS RAINCOATS AND FANS TO KEEP DEMONSTRATORS ON THE JOB RAIN OR SHINE, MIMEOGRAPH PAPER AND MACHINES, ARE PERHAPS POCKET MONEY, BUT ALL THE SAME THEY COUNT UP.

SINCE THE CIA ((PRO-COUP)) GROUP SEEMS TO BE THE BIGGEST

~~SECRET~~

OPPOSITION, IT SEEKS LOGICAL THAT IF THE ((PRO-COUP)) FINANCES WERE DROPPED FROM THE BURDEN ON AID TO VIETNAM, OTHER ECONOMIES WOULD RESULT. ALL THE TIME, EFFORT, AND MONEY THAT NOW HAS TO BE SPENT TO COMBAT THE TERROR THEY HAVE HELPED CREATE IN SAIGON COULD BE SPENT ON THE REAL WAR EFFORT, THUS BRINGING VICTORY NEARER, MORE QUICKLY WITH LESS MONEY.

YES, SENATOR CHURCH, THE MONEY BEING SPENT IN VIETNAM IS BIG ENOUGH TO WARRANT A CLOSE LOOK AT WHERE IT'S GOING, AND SUCH EXTRANEOUS ITEMS AS BUDGETS FOR AMERICAN-INSPIRED COUP D'ETATS COULD WELL BE CUT OUT. THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS THOSE OF VIETNAM WOULD BE SERVED BY SUCH CUTS.

S E C R E T

C/S COMMENT: \*DISSEMINATION APPLICABLE TO RYBAT CABLES.

\*\*PORTION GARBED, BEING SERVICED.